

## TALLY OF INTERNET TOWN MEETING RESULTS: SYNTHESIS OF BALLOTS AND TEXT COMMENTS

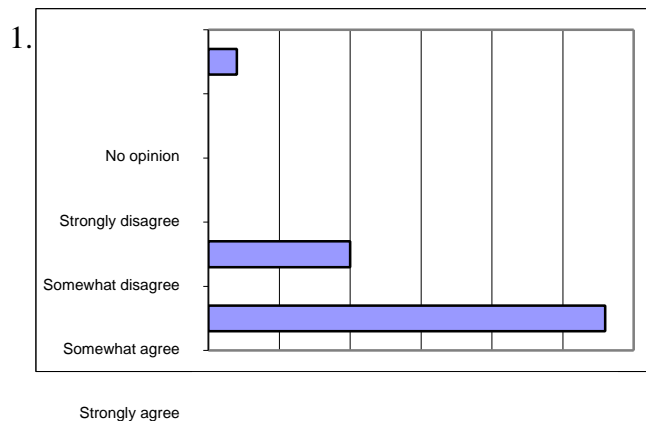
This appendix contains summaries of the visions and goals (for context), the critical issues, the ballot responses to the critical issues, and highlights from the text comments. The results of the ballots (bar charts) are presented without quantitative details, in order to focus the reader's attention on relative values, as contrasted with total values. This presentation makes sense because of the sparseness of the data, differences in balloting between topics, and because ballots were still being received as the paper was written.<sup>1</sup> Despite the fact that the balloting was a moving target, the relative values (pattern of voting) remained consistent throughout the Internet town meeting.

### PUBLIC AWARENESS

Vision: Widespread public awareness of coastal issues, their complexity, and responses to them will be an important factor in stewardship of the coastal zone. Public education will provide the basis for this. Communications media will reinforce stewardship messages and disseminate them throughout society.

Goal: Coastal and urban waterfront communities will be aware of coastal issues, their complexity, and responses to them.

Critical issues:



Selected comments:

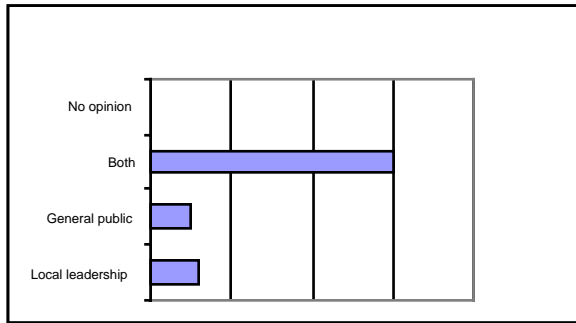
Environmental education is an excellent resource management strategy. Hands-on activities, combined with increased knowledge, is key. (11/10/99)

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<sup>1</sup> From July 16, 1999-January 12, 2000, a total of 3,374 votes were recorded on 381 ballots.

Increasing public awareness about coastal issues is one of the most effective ways to change behavior and to gain community buy-in for environmental initiatives. (8/13/99)

2. Should coastal educational programs be focused on educating the local leadership or the general public?



Selected comments:

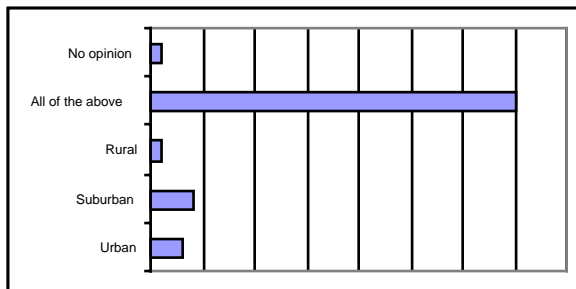
A continued effort directed toward teaching children specific sustainable practices and values will go a long way to ensuring a healthier coastal environment in the future. (1/10/99)

People like getting involved in meaningful, hands-on projects that improve their community. Education efforts targeted at local leadership may be too little too late. An educated and aware populace should raise candidates to office that can carry forward a progressive and sustainable vision. (10/12/99)

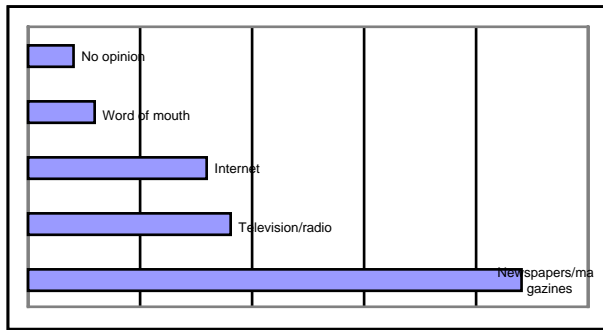
We need to start a process to help connect the local K-12 education community with local, state and federal government. We need people on the ground that can help local teachers interact and participate in a coastal awareness program. (8/26/99)

Leadership is always important, but grass roots organization is key to public awareness. (7/16/99)

3. What regions should be the targets of coastal educational efforts?



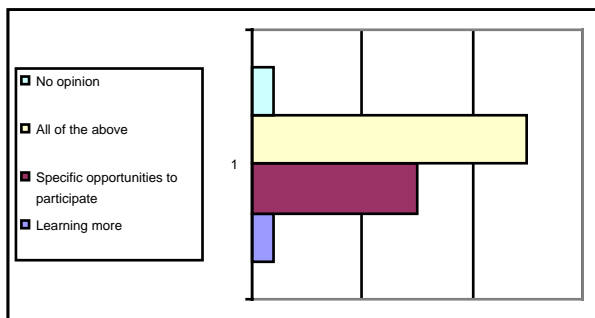
4. From which media are you most likely to obtain information on coastal issues?



Selected comments:

Both government and industry respond to an active citizenry. There are many venues for informal education about stewardship, through churches and recreational programs, for example. (8/14/99)

5. What might encourage you personally to become more involved helping to shape the future of your community?



Selected comments:

Strong emotional bonds to the concepts of ocean, coast, living resources and their importance to us will be the foundation for stewardship in the next millennium. (9/28/99)

We have come a very long way. (7/22/99)

## RESPONDING TO CHANGE

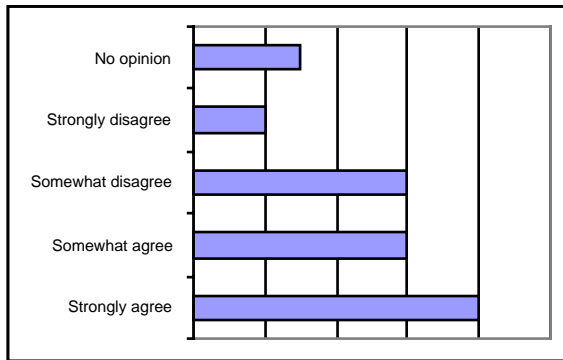
Vision: Coastal communities will respond to pressures with more reasonable, less adversarial management approaches. These will typically involve focused, regional public and private efforts that harness the knowledge, experience, capabilities and authorities of private industry and environmental organizations, as well as government at every level. These partnerships will, in general: (1) have a regional or ecosystem focus, (2) be based on sound science and engineering, including information from real-time environmental monitoring, and (3) involve extensive collaboration between public and

private interests and across all levels of government. They will rely, to the greatest extent possible, on the participation of the widest range of stakeholders, including every level of government, with their conservation and economic development tools; the private sector, that is capable of great innovation in every area; and the knowledge base and technical applications provided by scientists and engineers. These advances in management will contribute to major advances in habitat protection and restoration, fisheries management, hazard mitigation, watershed management, and safety and efficiency of the marine transportation system. Progress will be monitored through an established set of national indicators.

Goal A: Coastal and maritime communities will have the technical capacity to plan for the future, and to achieve the objectives that they set for themselves.

Goal B: Management will be community based, participatory and transparent.

Critical issue: Do you agree with the vision?



Selected comments:

Market place solutions are not going to work without regulation. (9/9/99)

Comprehensive plans are overrated. They have no teeth. The fear of property rights advocates and the never-ending search for tax dollars will continue. Progress towards all your visions will be much slower than the 2025 deadline you are aiming for. (8/26/99)

How can the loss of open space and consequent loss of habitat due to development and sprawl, with all its environmental implications, be addressed by simply using “less adversarial management approaches?” (8/19/99)

How are we going to do all this, given the continuing furor over government being too big and taxes too high at all levels? (7/20/99)

## **WATER DEPENDENT COMMERCE**

Vision: Global trade will continue to increase, as will demands on commercial ports to continue to safely and efficiently handle ships and cargoes. The trend towards efficiency and consolidation will continue in shipping, and will lead to increased demand for superports, large state-of-the-art dedicated cargo facilities with excellent intermodal connections. A trend towards specialized assets and services, such as high-speed cargo shipping, and more use of ferries, will also continue. Channels and berths will be routinely dredged to appropriate depths, and real-time navigation information will be routinely available. Not every commercial port will become a superport. Faced with the need to make massive investments to consolidate, specialize and modernize, there may be only one or two superports on each coast of the US in 2025. Other ports will remain viable as feeder facilities and in niche markets.

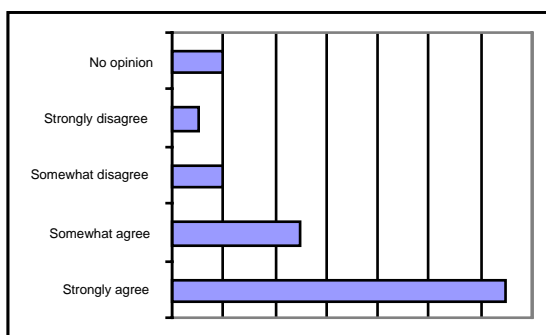
Another defining trend will be increasing demand for public access to the water for recreation and leisure. This will include both demand for water access for recreation, and also demand to convert shore lands once used for industrial purposes to other uses, for example revitalized urban waterfronts, marinas, and restored natural areas. Some ports will embrace alternative economic activities, making investments to maximize returns from tourism, recreation and leisure time activities. The loss of industrial waterfront space will become a growing problem for some water-dependent industries in some regions.

Goal A: The nation will be served by a modern system of safe and efficient ports and waterways, which will be accessible for both commerce and recreation.

Goal B: Port regions will promote commerce, and conserve historical and cultural values of the community. They will conserve the traditional right to use the waterways and protect the coastal and marine environment.

Critical issues:

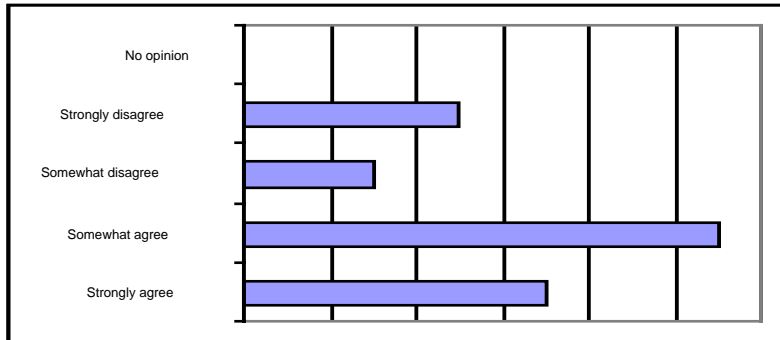
1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



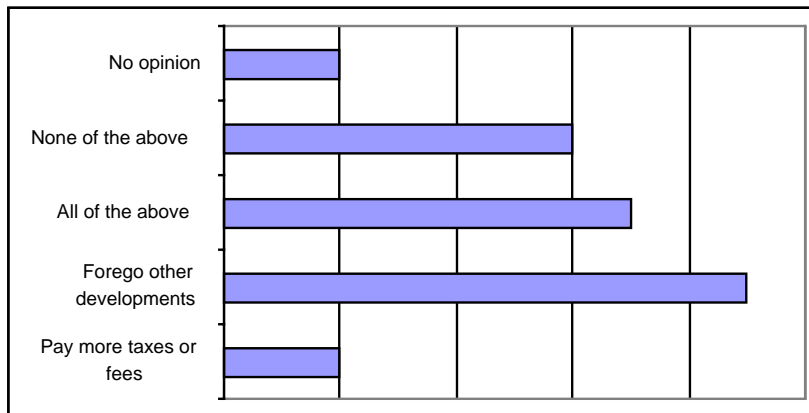
Selected comments:

Present efforts to improve the management of the “Marine Transportation System” are well intentioned but miss the mark. This “system” is a public-private enterprise. It needs a shared management structure. Those who worry about these things should look closely at how the US manages its banking system, through the Federal Reserve. The model fits the marine transportation system. (7/16/99)

2. Does your community have the knowledge and tools to direct where people live and work, and where there should be open spaces?



3. What sacrifices would you be willing to make in order to protect sites and access for water-dependent businesses?



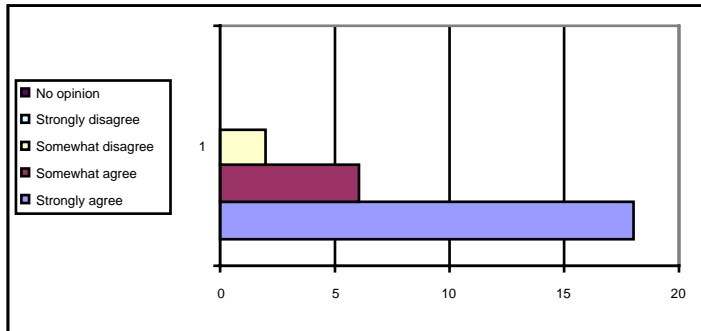
4. Should priorities be set in the coastal zone that generally acknowledge water-dependent uses over other uses?

Selected comments:

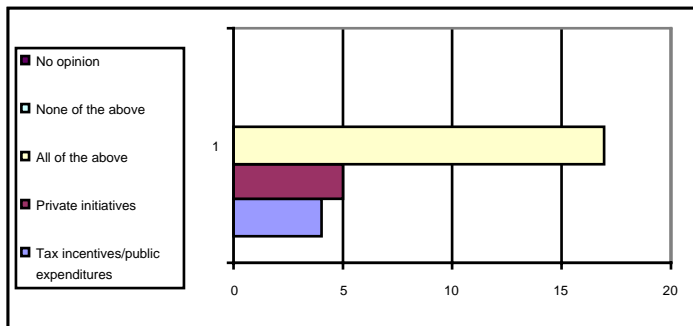
We should stay away from free market intervention. Waterfront areas might go through many rebirths depending upon economic trends of the surrounding community. Water

dependent uses might diminish and then revive. This is the nature of things, and should not be impeded. (7/22/99)

5. Should abandoned or contaminated waterfront facilities and areas be cleaned up and converted to other purposes?



6. How should such cleanups be paid for?

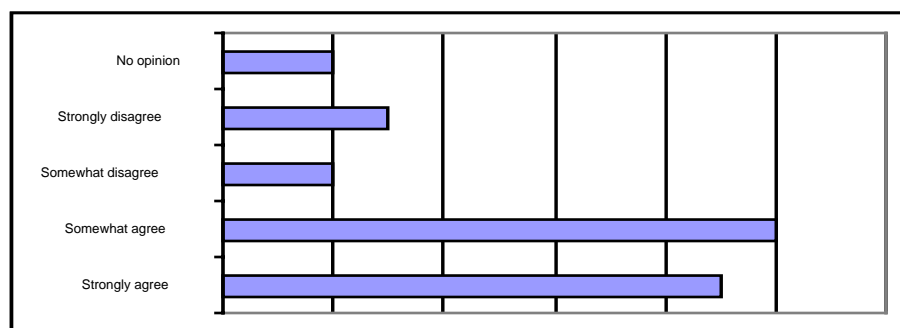


Selected comments:

Make the people who contaminated the waterfront areas pay for the cleanup even if it forces them out of business. (11/17/99)

## ENERGY AND MINERALS

Vision: The history of energy supply has been characterized by increasing diversity of fuels and sources. While energy conservation will continue to grow in importance, petroleum will continue to be the dominant fuel 25 years from now. The percentage that comes from the oceans will be even greater, and the reliance on imports, that is, oil that arrives by ship, will continue. Moreover, 25 years hence, new energy sources from the



ocean will begin to enter the mainstream market on a trial basis. These may include petroleum derived from methane hydrate sediments of the deep sea, hydrogen fuels derived directly from seawater, and conversion of useful energy from the thermal and kinetic energy of the ocean. Large-scale energy developments will continue to receive extensive environmental, safety and economic scrutiny. Projects will be welcome additions to the economic base in regions where they pass muster. Clean energy sources, those with the smallest adverse effect on global climate, will begin to have an economic advantage; this is likely to spur the development of direct conversion of ocean energy.

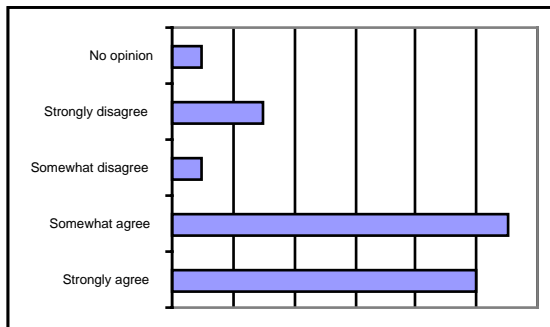
High demand for sand to maintain beaches will cause offshore sand deposits to be managed as public resources. The doctrine of sand rights will have developed, analogous to water rights; it will be illegal to trap sand upstream and prevent it from being used downstream.

Goal A: abundant, cheap, clean energy will be produced from the ocean.

Goal B: Sand will be managed as a resource vital to coastal communities.

Critical issues:

1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



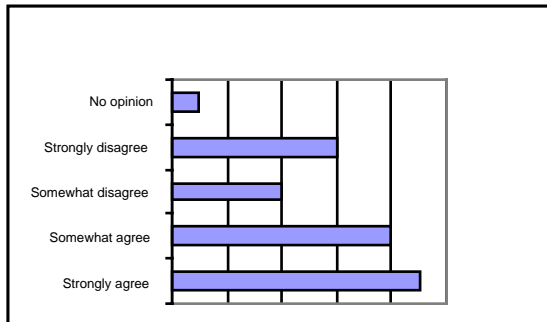
Selected comments:

Curb our addiction to “cheap” oil. As it becomes apparent that the remaining reserves are offshore in high risk drilling regions, we should consider other sources of cheap energy like conservation and renewables. (10/1/99)

Whatever happened to the idea of national investments in pre-competitive R&D on energy from the sea? Good ideas keep coming back. Exploitation of novel hydrocarbon resources, hydrogen from seawater, and mechanical and thermal energy from the oceans—all can be vital energy sources in the future. (7/16/99)



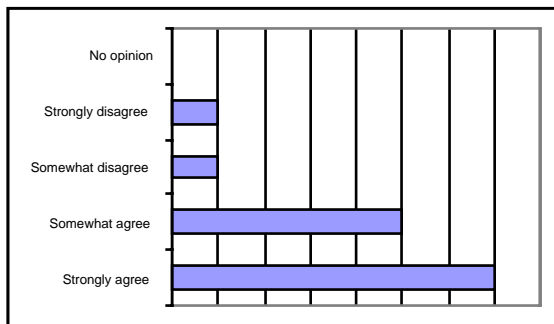
2. Given that more than half of US petroleum is imported by ship or produced from the seabed, and reliance on ocean energy is projected to increase, do you believe that these activities can continue to be conducted with acceptable environmental risk?



Selected comments:

Technological improvements are rapidly reducing the costs of maintaining a petroleum-based economy. Improvements in pollution control technology will ensure that this petroleum-based economy will be environmentally benign. (7/22/99)

3. Should offshore sand resources be managed so that sand continues to be available for maintaining beaches and other purposes?



## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

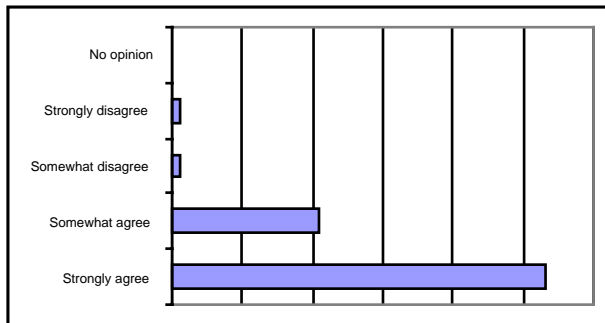
Vision: Clean water, abundant habitats, and healthy and diverse flora and fauna are cornerstones of sustainable coastal communities. Without them, the coasts are not attractive destinations. Food from the sea cannot be consumed. Environmental costs unduly penalize the water-dependent economy. Protecting the environment has come to be viewed as an integral element of economic activity. Successful communities in 2025 will have protected the environment even as they progressed economically. That is the very essence of sustainability.

Goal A: Coastal waters will surpass the statutory standard of fishable and swimmable by also being inviting and healthful for recreation.

Goal B: Protect and recover coastal flora and fauna.

Critical issues:

1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



Selected comments:

Having an economic output for every aspect of our lives is narrow-minded. We must move away from that mindset and conduct activities to preserve and restore all living things with which we share this earth. (1/11/00)

Progress towards this end depends largely on the political will of government agencies, which, to date, has been lacking. If we continue to manage the coasts as carelessly as we have in the past, this vision will absolutely never be achieved. (11/19/99)

The vision does not take into account the rising sea level. This will have an effect on tidal estuaries that are the nurseries for aquatic animals. (10/18/99)

A good coastal future plan can, and I predict will, be used by bad government to achieve ends no one who worked on the plan intended. It always happens. (9/16/99)

I see little hope of the vision becoming reality by 2025 unless major changes occur in the US society's view of the coast. Rights of private landowners are mostly supreme. These private landowners must become actively involved in making the coastal futures vision come to pass. Most US citizens do not think about their personal impact on the environment, but this must change if we are to sustain a healthy coast for the future. I suggest a large-scale education program about the long-term benefits of sustainable land use planning. (8/27/99)

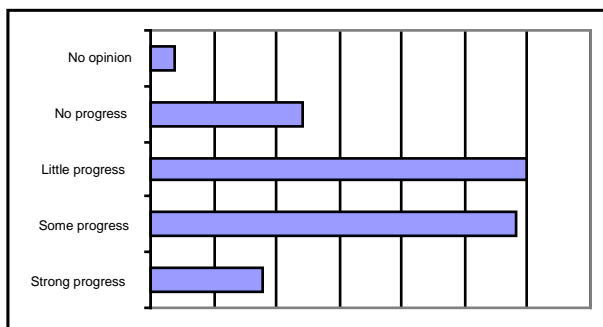
The vision statement does not sufficiently capture the close relationship between a healthy economy and a clean environment. The vision statement contains too much

negativism. Also, the use of the term “sustainability” at the end of the vision statement leaves the reader hanging because the term begs definition. (8/14/99)

Goal A needs to stress attention to run-off pollution. The objectives also need to address the importance of making people in inland regions more aware of the effects of their water use on downstream habitats and resources. Goal B ought to be reworded: “All essential habitats and ecosystem processes will be identified, managed and monitored.” The objectives under this goal need to recognize the necessity of managing lands and waters that are adjacent to protected areas, and also to stress the need to develop the science and practice of habitat restoration. (8/14/99)

We have already achieved this vision for the most part. Communities clearly consider environmental quality as a major objective in planning activities. The change in perceptions in the past 20 years has been astounding. (7/22/99)

2. Do you think your community is making meaningful and noticeable progress in improving the environment?



Selected comments:

Even though population has increased in coastal areas, we have been able to hold the line or reduce many environmental insults in the last twenty or thirty years. Much of that is due to environmental awareness and strong leadership from the federal government. (10/12/99)

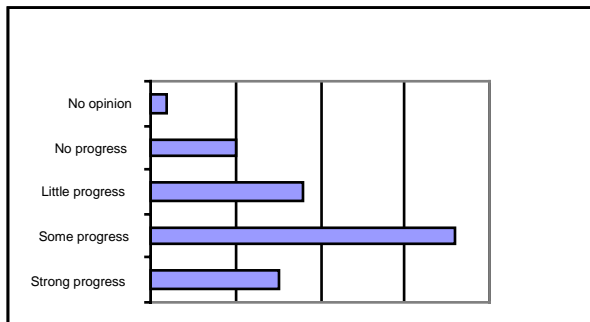
Attacks from business and development and private property interests in the last several years have opened the door for slow erosion of the gains we made. (10/12/99)

Non-point source, urban run off is a terrific problem here as are sewage leaks from failing, inadequate infrastructure and out-of-control growth. (9/14/99)

I am very discouraged about trends that are developing on our coast. Bridges to hammocks are being approved to allow vehicular access to them. Hammocks are being backfilled and bulkheaded to allow building, and destroying all natural habitat. Marsh hammocks are composed of mostly marine forest species, and are valuable habitat for

many neo-tropical migrants, as well as many long-legged wading birds, wood storks (endangered) and indigo buntings (in decline and a species of regional concern). US Fish and Wildlife has said they may become “Places of last refuge for wildlife in the face of development.” I do not think my state is making any progress in protecting the natural areas. We are doing just the opposite. (9/11/99)

3. Do you expect your community to make meaningful and noticeable progress in improving the environment by 2025?



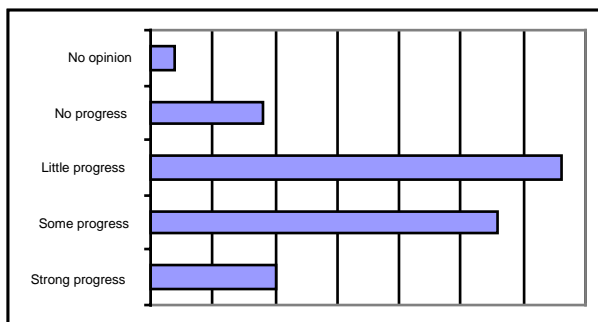
Selected comments:

It's time for a renewed spirit of leadership under the public trust doctrine, which would incorporate the concept of environmental justice for all citizens. (10/12/99)

We need to address the frequent contamination of water. (9/17/99)

We must start providing opportunities for students to participate in activities that help the community and understand how decisions are made if we hope to have a sustainable community in the long run. (8/26/99)

4. Do you think your community is making meaningful and noticeable progress in protecting, restoring and enhancing natural areas necessary for fish and wildlife?

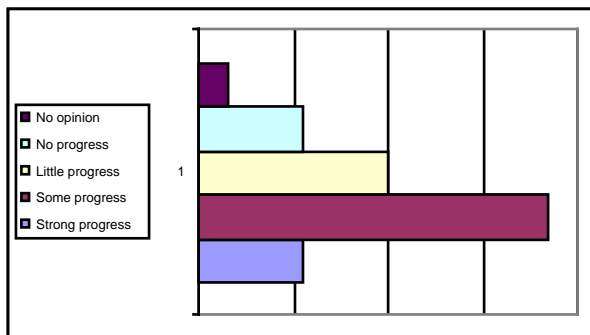


Selected comments:

A lot of coastal towns are more interested in short-term profits brought by tourism rather than in protecting coastal resources for long-term sustainability. (8/12/99)

Regulations need to be created and implemented to prevent the proliferation of impervious cover above ten percent of a sub-watershed. Funds need to be set aside to purchase properties and engage in restoration projects that will benefit both public health and safety and enhance the ecological health of an area. (7/28/99)

5. Do you think your community will make meaningful and noticeable progress in protecting, restoring and enhancing natural areas necessary for fish and wildlife by 2025?



Selected comments:

Mixing the goal of preservation and restoration of wetlands with the need to improve sewage and storm water disposal is a dangerous course of action. (9/20/99)

Beach nourishment needs a hard look. It is a scam that hurts the environment, while giving communities a false sense of security. (9/21/99)

Command and control environmental regulation has gone about as far as it can go. We need to encourage solutions at the regional level, which involve public-private partnerships. Critical area commissions and similar arrangements are becoming increasingly important. (7/16/99)

## FOOD SUPPLY

Vision: Fish stocks, once threatened by overfishing, environmental degradation and habitat loss, will be restored and managed sustainably. Local stocks will contribute in important ways to the national food supply, and local fishing communities will benefit directly as a result. Farms in coastal regions will minimize soil loss and run-off pollution through extensive use of buffer zones, no-till farming methods, and scientific application

of fertilizers and chemicals. Aquaculture will play an increasingly important role, especially when it is community-based, contributes positively to the need for protein, and in some cases restores or maintains wild fish stocks, and employs environmentally benign methods.

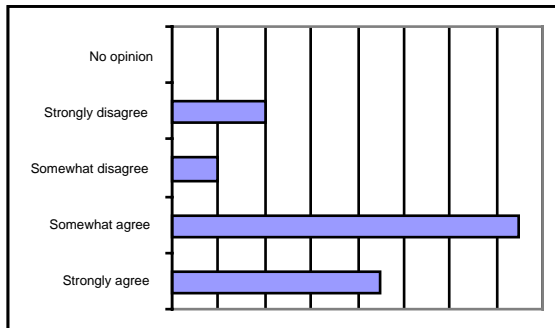
Goal A: Fish stocks will be abundant, healthy and managed sustainably.

Goal B: Commercial and recreational fisheries will be vital economically and culturally to their communities.

Goal C: Coastal agriculture will contribute to the food supply, while conserving the environment

#### Critical Issues:

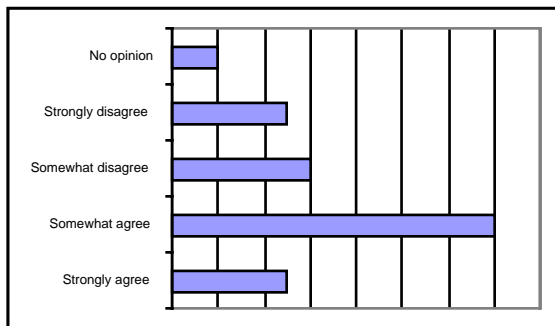
1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



#### Selected comments:

I disapprove of most current fishing methods that result in tremendous waste of fish resources. (8/26/99)

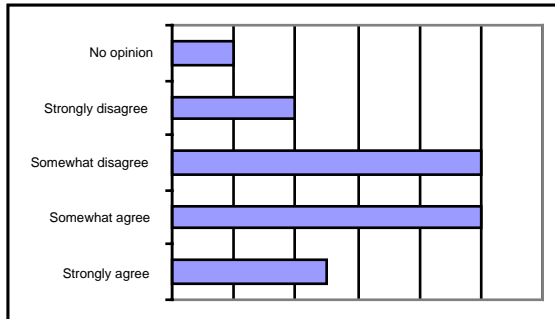
2. Should land use priorities in coastal regions generally favor commercial fishing?



Selected comments:

If consumers are made aware of the serious problem posed by overfishing and by some countries' devastating fishing practices, they will be able to support fisheries that practice sustainable fishing. (8/24/99)

3. Should land use priorities in coastal regions generally favor farming (including fish farming)?



Selected comments:

Fish farming has a terrible history of environmental destruction and unless methods are found to reverse that it should be strongly discouraged. (9/9/99)

Fish farming should only be promoted when and where adverse environmental impacts can be minimized to an acceptable level. (8/26/99)

We value our coast for recreational and residential purposes more than for its contribution to meeting protein requirements. (7/16/99)

## COASTAL HAZARDS

Vision: Coastal hazards encompass both man-made hazards and natural hazards. Man-made hazards refer to spills and similar environmental calamities. Natural hazards encompass local events, such as coastal flooding, and also global-scale changes such as sea level rise. For both of these kinds of hazards, improvements in knowledge of environmental phenomena, and delivery of environmental predictions and services will greatly enhance the capacity to predict, to mitigate and to respond. Technology-based navigation and risk assessment will prevent maritime accidents; the few that continue to occur will be responded to quickly and effectively. Warning systems will provide early notice of extreme weather events and reduce loss of life and damage to property. Planners and managers will use knowledge of environmental phenomena to steer development away from disaster-prone regions and to develop disaster-resistant communities.

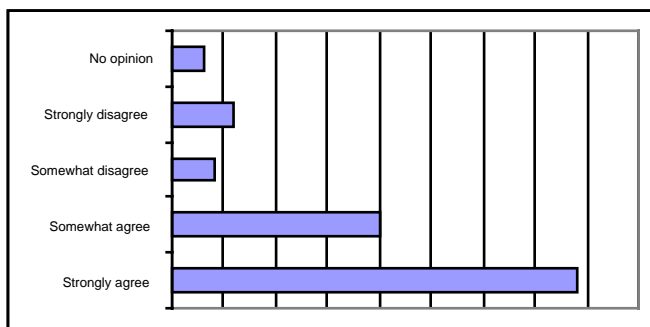
Beaches and coral reefs will be protected and managed as a national resource because of their recreational potential, the protection they afford, and their habitat value and aesthetic appeal. Coastal communities will be much more aware of natural hazards, as the result of better information and also deliberate efforts to raise public awareness, and to develop and apply standards, guidelines and plans for activities in hazard-prone regions, consistent with a national shoreline policy. The national approach to flood insurance will be restructured so that inappropriate development and redevelopment are no longer subsidized. Insurance and taxes will be used to encourage safe siting and building practices. Better building codes appropriate to coastal regions will minimize storm damage.

Goal A: Significantly reduce the loss of life and property due to natural coastal hazards.

Goal B: Maintain recreational beaches for the long-term, employing regional management plans and nonstructural beach restoration or construction methods wherever feasible.

Critical issues:

1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



Selected comments:

People who insist on building in known flood zones, or in areas that are frequented by natural destructive storms should bear the cost of those decisions. Coastlines should be left to change as they will without human interference. (11/22/99)

I would like to thank you for keeping us safe during the storm. (9/15/99)

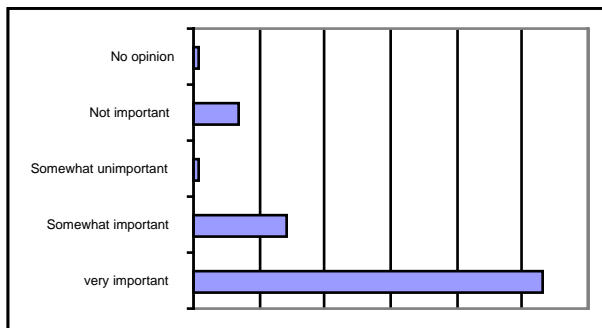
This is terribly biased toward the views of retreat proponents, who ignore all the good economics and sociological realities of peoples' desire to live or vacation in coastal areas, in favor of some screwy pie-in-the-sky philosophy that highlights the costs only, to induce us to move. (9/14/99)



The risk of property damage is increasing in proportion with the growth in coastal populations and also standard of living, yet the risk of loss of life is level or declining because of improved warnings and forecasts. This leads to a false sense of security. Nature will win out, always, everywhere. (8/14/99)

The costs of hazardous locations can be internalized in real estate markets through mandatory insurance. This will allow markets to function without undue government intervention. (7/22/99)

2. Do you believe that coastal communities should be designed and built to withstand the effects of storms and floods?

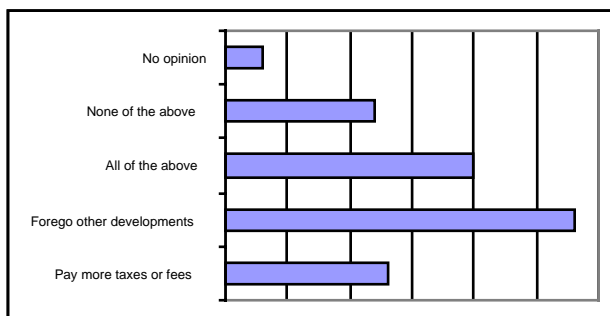


Selected comments:

There is a strong need for more education in this area to all residents that live here. (9/9/99)

The best coastal defense is a wide, well-maintained beach, including dunes. Setbacks and building codes are very important. National investments in predictions and warnings have paid off handsomely. (7/16/99)

3. Would you be willing to make some personal sacrifice to achieve a disaster-resistant community?



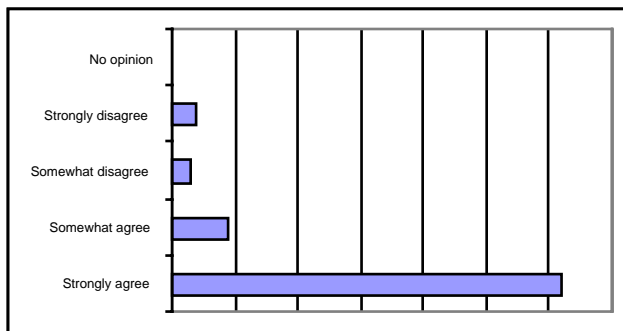
Selected comments:

The costs of living and doing business in flood prone areas should be placed exclusively on those people who live/own in those areas—not taxpayers everywhere. (11/19/99)

While I support private landowner rights, I think that in cases where those rights infringe on the rights of others (like coastal development and flood protection of private property) the greater good should prevail. (9/20/99)

Insurance costs need to realistically reflect risk. There need not be government influence in this area. (8/23/99)

4. Do you believe that future development of residential and commercial buildings should be directed away from hazard-prone regions?



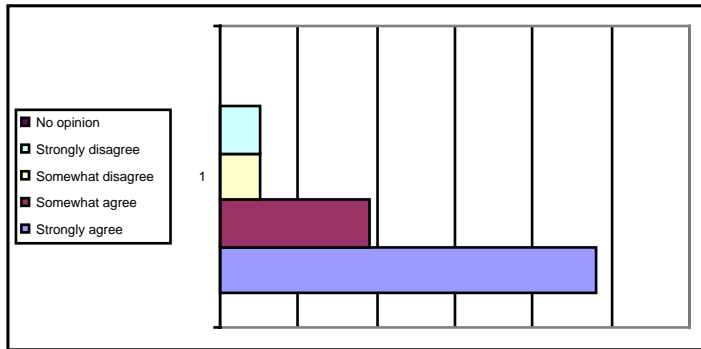
Selected comments:

The principal goal should be prevention not restoration or protection. Relocating development, while expensive, should always be considered as a potential alternative to restoration or protection. (11/20/99)

Development and redevelopment in areas subject to flood and wave damage should be halted. This includes West Coast estuaries and low-lying coastal land subject to soil fluidization from earthquakes and/or inundation by tsunamis. (9/28/99)

History has shown that we have generally chosen to rebuild only to be devastated again. Until our values reflect a compassion for the natural environment and allow natural coastal variability to play its course, I see a very difficult road ahead in affecting our “enhanced capacity” to mitigate and respond to hazards along the coast. (8/23/99)

5. Do you believe that communities should consider strategies, such as relocation, for moving out of developed areas subject to natural disasters or rising sea levels?



Selected comments:

Communities within thirty miles of the coast should reconsider their growth oriented goals. (11/23/99)

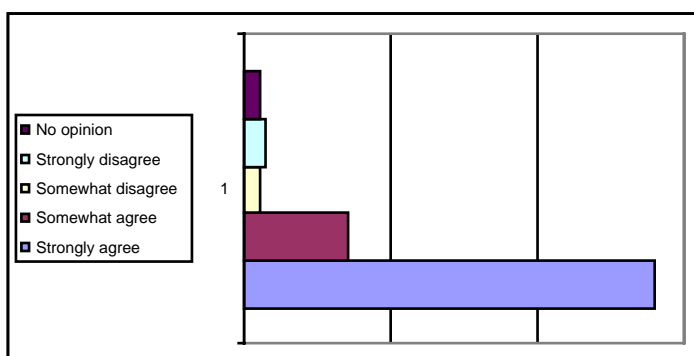
Rather than asking whether communities should “consider” strategies, the more important question is whether they are willing to implement them. (11/16/99)

We cannot just relocate people currently living on the coast on account of risk factors. We can however oversee the future development of coastal areas. (9/15/99)

Retreat from high-risk areas is an option, and it will become increasingly apparent to those who presently disagree. (9/13/99)

Swift and aggressive action must be taken to educate and support communities in retreating from the shore. (8/26/99)

6. Should those who benefit the most from the protection afforded by dunes and beaches pay part of the cost of their maintenance and upkeep?



Selected comments:

Those who benefit from the protection afforded by dunes and beaches should pay all of the costs of their maintenance and upkeep. (11/23/99)

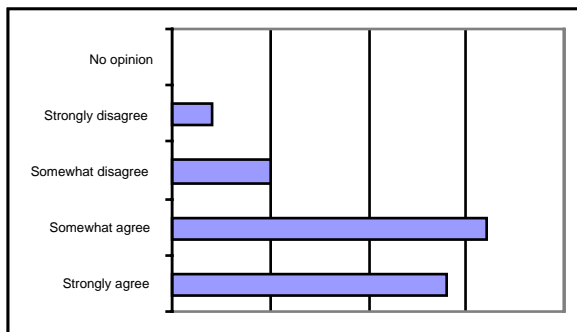
## COMMUNITY HERITAGE

Vision: Every community will have its own unique feel and flavor that reflect its heritage, traditions and diversity. Cultural heritage and diversity will be protected and perpetuated through the master planning process. Historic buildings and structures will be preserved. Traditional occupations and trades will flourish where they have community support. Diversity will be honored. New cultural resources will be accepted and incorporated over time.

Goal: Conserve the built environment, culture and history that lend character and define the community.

Critical issues:

1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



Selected comments:

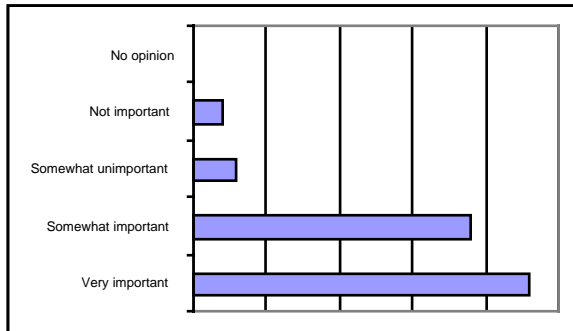
While it is important to recognize the need to maintain traditions, preserve culture and conserve traditional occupations and trades, we live in an ever-changing natural and cultural world. Within a given time period, as we gain knowledge and as values shift, some traditions may become unacceptable for various reasons. At any time then, it may become more appropriate to stop a particular tradition while finding creative ways to preserve that tradition. (10/8/99)

Each community must determine for itself what portions of history are worthy of preservation. (8/26/99)

The vision statement recommends “master planning.” Heritage and tradition are important, but so are looking to the future and embracing change. Master planning tends

to be conservative. It is ill equipped to guide an era of change or to seize the opportunities that change brings. (7/22/99)

2. Is it important for you to conserve your community's unique history, to maintain its traditions and preserve its culture?



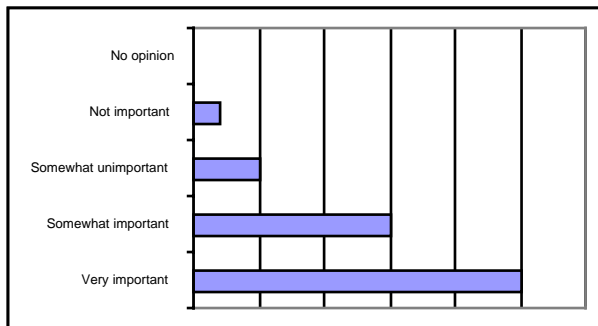
Selected comments:

Unfortunately, some communities do not appreciate a working waterfront. Developers want a view, not the sounds and smells of a working fishing fleet. Many in this community would rather have some "quaint" historic vessels for tourists. (12/6/99)

Preventing the homogenization of our coastal communities is one of the most important issues in the coastal zone. (10/12/99)

Who would be the arbiter of what is worth conserving? (7/16/99)

3. Do you support conserving traditional occupations and trades, such as boat building and fishing?

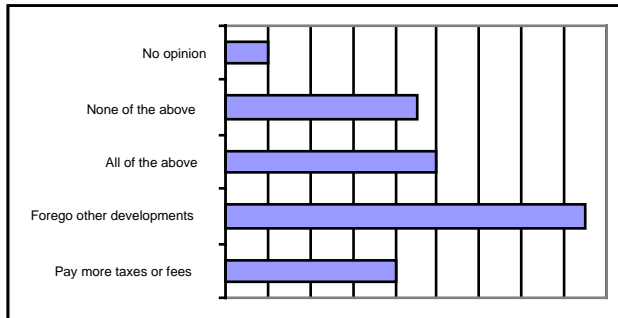


Selected comments:

I'm not sure that my small coastal community has much traditional culture....Traditional jobs are changing rather rapidly....Some coastal residents can earn a living with

intellectual or artistic skills that can be practiced anywhere, while the person enjoys a relaxed, small-town and coastal lifestyle. (12/27/99)

4. Would you be willing to make some personal sacrifice to help save traditional occupations and trades?



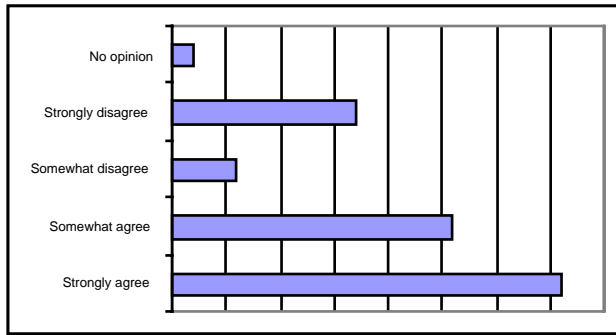
## POPULATION AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

**Vision:** Population growth and additional settlement will be accommodated without compromising the environmental values that draw people to the coast in the first place. Public investment for roads, sewers, and other infrastructure will be channeled into areas that are best able to accommodate growth without deleterious environmental impacts. Planning and design guidelines, reflecting solid science and engineering, will ensure that developments are environmentally compatible and structurally safe, and that they are respectful of historical and cultural values of communities. Water-dependent uses will be favored in community planning and zoning, to protect access to the water, promote diversity and conserve traditional uses. New developments will pay for themselves.

**Goal:** Every community will have the authority and means to implement a master plan that provides a blueprint for managing and directing growth. Federal and state laws concerning clean water and air, and the management of coastal, marine and estuarine resources and areas will be coordinated with community master plans, and will be fully funded and enforced.

**Critical issues:**

1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



#### Selected comments:

Although there have been both scientific and regulatory reasons to better manage growth in coastal environments, they have been often overlooked by local and state officials eager to maximize development. Only with a better informed public, better educated decision-makers, and expansion of land use laws to protect environmentally sensitive areas and preclude unstable areas from development will the stated vision be able to become a reality. (12/28/99)

Greed and unwillingness to change will make this hopeful vision very difficult if not impossible to achieve. (11/10/99)

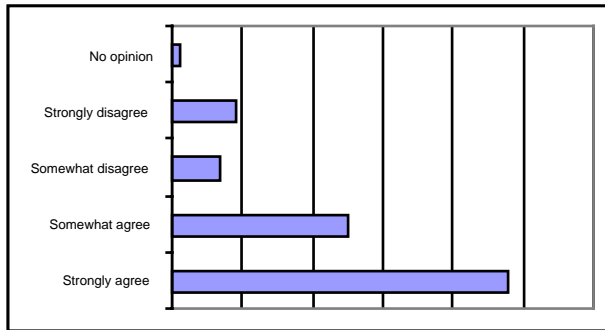
The vision is not compatible with a free society! (9/20/99)

This vision sounds wonderful; however, when I think about our politicians I wonder if this goal can ever be reached. (9/11/99)

We must all continue to reach out to others and both instruct them and lead by example if we wish to see this type of a future. (8/26/99)

The vision and questions imply strong central planning, albeit at the community level. There is much to be said for scruffiness and muddling through. My own community is beginning an economic resurgence led by the private sector. We need many actors and few barriers. (7/22/99)

2. Should your community control the quality and quantity of development?



#### Selected comments:

[Controlling] population will do more than any single thing to alleviate environmental degradation as well as many other challenges. Any approach to dealing with environmental degradation in the long term without considering overpopulation directly is futile. (10/6/99)

The environment will ultimately take it on the chin unless land that should not be developed is publicly owned, is owned by persons committed to open space and not the windfall gained by selling to developers, or zoning is strictly enforced. (10/1/99)

The impacts of additional people (roads, sewage, and water requirements) will inevitably cause harm. The only real solution would be if we could stop the population growth. (9/9/99)

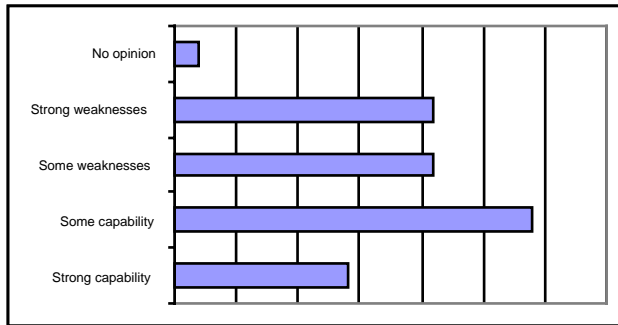
Population growth and economic development are fundamentally incompatible with sustainability. Directing growth to certain areas may delay the collapse of our coastal ecosystems, but it will not prevent it. We will continue to see significant degradation of our coasts until we change our basic societal goal from growth to sustainability. (9/1/99)

I do not believe that significant population growth can be accommodated without compromising the environmental values of the coast. More impervious surfaces will lead to more pollution of our coastal environments. (8/26/99)

Development is the overriding issue. Some regions have a strong tradition of zoning and other land use controls. Other regions have not developed that way. For better or worse, coastal managers need to work within the prevailing community standards and realities. (7/16/99)

3. Does your community have the knowledge and tools to direct where people live and work, and where there should be open spaces?



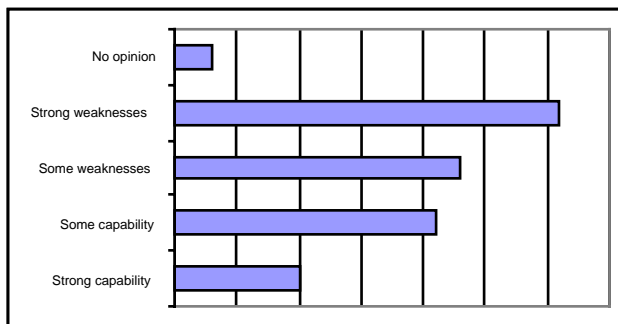


#### Selected comments:

Some developers have done a good job incorporating sound environmental best management practices into their projects; others give only lip service. I suggest working with environmentally visionary leaders of nation, state and local building trade and development associations to spread the commitment to environmentally sound development. (7/28/99)

There is no technological or managerial King Canute. We cannot hold back the sea. (7/16/99)

4. Does your community have the political will to direct where people live and work, and where there should be open spaces?



#### Selected comments:

My community is small and capable of working to achieve the stated goals; this affirmative position is not typical of many coastal towns with considerable undeveloped land and much political/financial pressure for haphazard and inappropriate growth. (11/10/99)

Until we are able to run for office without having a bazillion bucks to throw into the campaign; we will be ruled by the wealthy, most of whom think they can buy nature. (9/23/99)

I am putting my trust in God and those who are called to ensure the preservation of our coasts. (9/23/99)

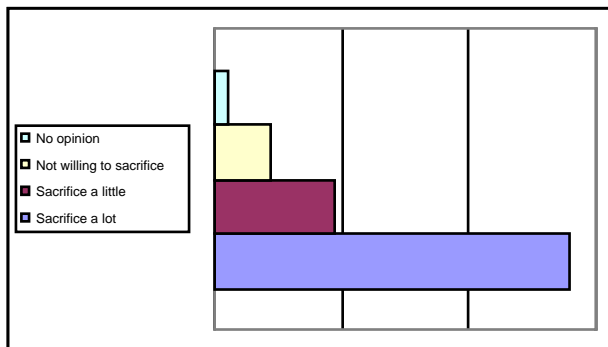
It is time for the Federal Government to get more involved with what is happening on the coast. Local and state governments do not have the political will to do the right thing. (9/20/99)

Local governments are notorious for selling out to development interests, even more so than the federal government. They seldom see how their local projects fit into the larger environmental situation. (9/9/99)

Awareness seems to be growing that population growth and unrestrictive settlement patterns are the root problem. They are discouraged that national dialogue about these matters does not seem to include all of the key players, for example the recreation and second-home industries, and other economic development interests. People who like “smart growth” talk about it; others hope the talk will just go away.

My community’s elected officials are totally in the pockets of developers and have no environmental foresight whatsoever. They get informed about the way to properly develop the coast but couldn’t care less because they have no vision. I see no way out of this situation other than to get more visionary officials elected (an uphill battle). (7/28/99)

5. In order to manage development to assure preservation of natural resources and public access, would you sacrifice some personal rights about what and where you can build?



## RECREATION AND TOURISM

Vision: Outdoor recreation and tourism will continue to be the most significant water-dependent economic activities in the coastal zone. People will continue to be attracted to the beach and the sea because the environment will be clean and inviting, there will be

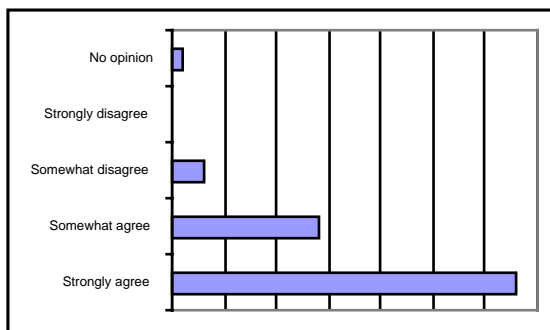
sufficient open-space for bird watching, beach combing, and boating and fishing, and tourists and boaters will have the access that they need to the beach and the water. The public will be much more aware of ways in which they can help protect the environment for the future by following safe environmental practices in their recreational activities.

Goal A: There will be great opportunities for coastal recreation and tourism.

Goal B: Renewed and restored historic and culturally diverse waterfront communities (working waterfronts) will be attractive and economically important tourism destinations.

Critical issues:

1. Do you agree with the proposed vision?



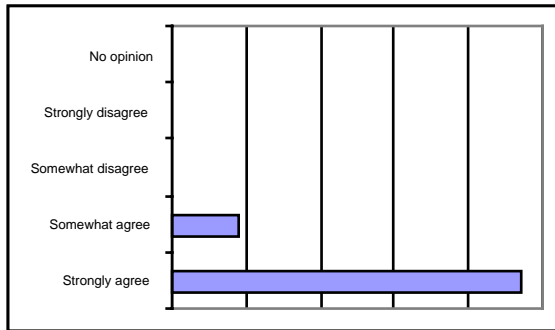
Selected comments:

Start to use high school and college students to interpret the cultural and natural history of our estuaries and shorelines. Setting up interpretive stations does not cost a lot of money and provides both visitors and residents an opportunity to learn about the environment and culture around them. (8/26/99)

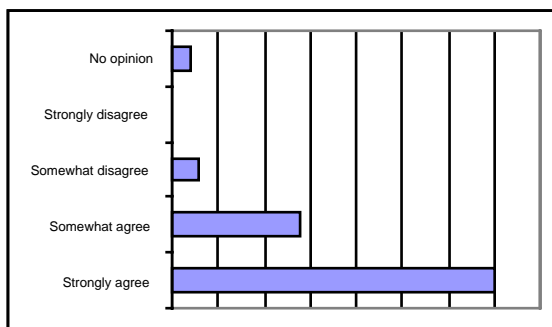
I especially support the goal about establishing a public awareness campaign to educate the public about coastal resources and human impacts, and promote awareness and adoption of best recreation and tourism practices. (8/12/99)

Marine recreation is a huge economic activity, yet the government does little to justify its investments in the environment and the economy on the basis of the potential impact on marine recreation. The many segments of the marine recreation world—boaters, fishers, birders, beach towns—would do well to band together into some type of umbrella group—that is how you get attention these days. (7/16/99)

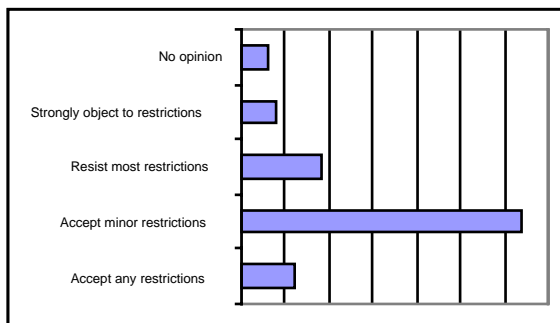
2. Should the public be guaranteed access to beaches and waterways?



3. Should areas used for public recreation be protected from conversion to other uses?



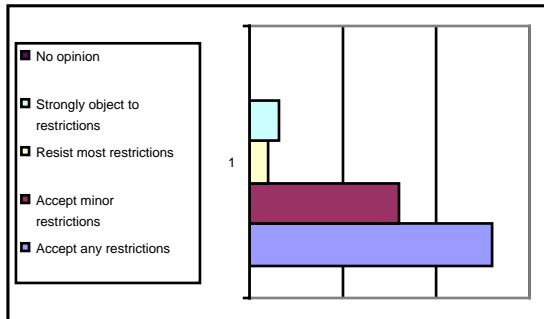
4. Would you accept some restrictions on how, when and where you personally engage in recreation, in the interest of avoiding conflicts with other uses?



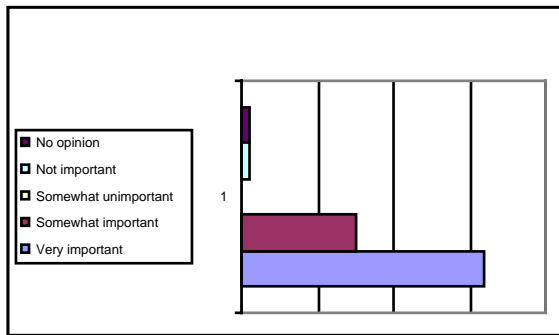
Selected comments:

People should be able to do what they wish. Since the owner paid for the beach and pays taxes for it, he or she has the right to do what he or she wants with it, as long as it does not harm others. This is the basis of freedom. (1/15/00)

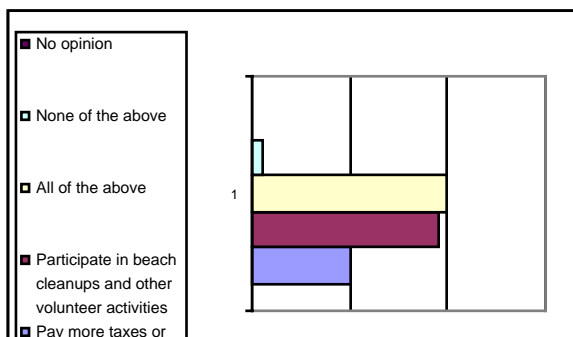
5. Would you accept some restrictions on how, when and where you personally engage in recreation, in the interest of protecting the environment?



6. Recreational boaters and others already provide hundreds of millions of dollars to local communities and the federal government through fees and taxes, such as marine fuel taxes. Is it desirable for those who use public areas (including beaches and waterways) for recreation to take more responsibility for their maintenance and upkeep?



7. What additional responsibilities would you be willing to take on, to help maintain public recreational areas?

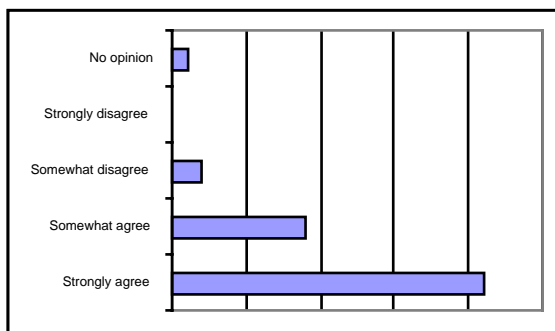


## ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES

Vision: Remote sensing, imaging technology and “smart” instruments will bring new data and ways to analyze and present new information. Modeling and simulation will become important aids to consensus building and decision-making. Communications and information technology will help managers reach out to new constituencies and bring in new ideas.

Goal: Enabling technologies, such as geographic information systems, remote sensing and imaging, real time environmental monitoring and communications networks, and environmental modeling and simulation will dramatically improve the quality and quantity of information available and utilized for coastal management.

Critical issue: Do you agree with the proposed vision?



Selected comments:

While new technologies can be of use to planners and resource users, they can also create considerable barriers unless people pay special attention to developing appropriate technologies that are accessible/usable from diverse backgrounds. (9/27/99)

An important objective to focus on will be to provide technical assistance to states and communities for better access to and use of new technologies. Oftentimes these technologies are still “technologies in search of applications.” It’s very hard to make them “enabling” without some accessible and exciting educational modules or interfaces that will help people to use them effectively on coastal and ocean data. (9/12/99)

It is not sufficient simply to develop new technology. It needs to be made available to end-users. Providing technical assistance to decision-makers at every level is an increasingly important function of NOAA and other government agencies. (8/14/99)

Oceanography and environmental sciences are at the cusp of a new era in which operational systems, including real-time systems, modeling and simulation will become far more important. The government needs to lead in these areas. Pay-off to society will be substantial. (7/16/99)